



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/573,099 | 03/22/2006 | Laisheng Liu | 1124970-0018 | 8927 |

7470 7590 03/30/2009
WHITE & CASE LLP
PATENT DEPARTMENT
1155 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 10036

| |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

EASTWOOD, DAVID C

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

3731

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|-----------|---------------|

03/30/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/573,099 | Applicant(s) LIU, LAISHENG | |
| | Examiner DAVID EASTWOOD | Art Unit 3731 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In response to applicant's petition filed in 1/09/2009. The previous office action is vacated accordingly and a new non-final action on the merits is as follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yiu (US 5976157).

Regarding Claims 1-6, Yiu discloses An electrical depilator, comprising substantially a main body (11) a motor (216), a reduction gear set (204), an arcuate shaft (214) and a set of single-pieces (500), said arcuate shaft being supported on a shaft seat (201) of the main body (11), a first stage gear of said reduction gear set being meshed with a driving wheel of said motor (203,204), a last stage gear being fixed on the single-piece which is located at the endmost position (208), each single-piece having a clipping surface (212) and a supporting portion (303), the whole set of single-pieces being arranged in such a manner that the clipping surfaces are opposite to each other (Figure 3 item 500 and 212) a clipping gap being formed between opposite surfaces of two single-pieces, said whole set of single-pieces being coupled together by

Art Unit: 3731

fixing members so as to rotate synchronously (Column 4 lines 1-5), and said whole set of single-pieces being fitted over the arcuate shaft all together(Figure 2), the fixing members are shifting yokes (305) which are formed on both sides of each single-piece, and one shifting yoke on a single-piece is inserted into and locked with another shifting yoke on an adjacent single-piece so that the whole set of single-pieces are coupled together and rotated synchronously (Column 4 lines 1-5), the fixing members are fork bodies (501,502) which are provided with shaft holes at centers thereof corresponding to the position of the arcuate shaft, each single-piece is provided at both sides with fork shaped slots, and both sides of each fork body are inserted into and locked with two fork shaped slots of two adjacent single-pieces, thereby the whole set of single-pieces are coupled together and rotated synchronously (Figure 5 and 2) (Column 4 lines 1-5), a thin piece (212, 401) is fixed on each fork body (501,502), the thin pieces and the fork bodies, together with the whole set of single-pieces, are fit over the arcuate shaft (Figure 2), the thin piece is provided between two opposite clipping surfaces of two single-pieces, and two clipping gaps are formed between both sides of each thin piece and clipping surfaces of two single-pieces, respectively (Figure 2 item 212), the fixing members are bearing housings (210,209), and the whole set of single-pieces are coupled together by the bearing housings so as to rotate synchronously (Column 3 lines 23-29), the fixing members are shaft pins (303), and the whole set of single-pieces are coupled together by the shaft pins so as to rotate synchronously (Column 4 lines 1-5).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See references cited page form 892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID EASTWOOD whose telephone number is (571)270-7135. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan Nguyen can be reached on (571)272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/DAVID EASTWOOD/
Examiner, Art Unit 3731

/Anhtuan T. Nguyen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3731
3/26/09